HAILEY'S ON IT!
By Marty Donovan
"Cirque du Bro-leil"
4126-211 Outline 9/22/23

EXT. HAILEY'S BACKYARD - DAY

HAILEY does intense training: weight lifting, upside down crunches, pounding a heavy bag, etc. FRANK and PETEY try to help but mostly get in the way. BETA hits a stopwatch and asks why she's training so hard for...a birdhouse competition!? Hailey: "This is Home Tweet Home, Beta, the premiere birdhouse building competition, not some rinky dink Del Mar art fair." She's been too intimidated to compete in past years but now she finally feels ready. Plus, some major players recently retired so this is ***her*** time! Frank and Petey squawk but Hailey reassures them there will also be time to hit the free birdseed samples.

SCOTT walks in with a FANCY GIFT BASKET full of sausages, hams, and salamis; he feels bad about calling out Sanjay (in ep. 210), so he got him a 'Salty Meat of the Month' subscription. Hailey: "But Sanjay is vegetarian." Scott deflates; now he needs a new way to make it up to Sanjay. And he has a lot of salty meat to take care of before it goes bad. Sanjay enters, excited; he scored tickets to a trapeze lesson he and Hailey have wanted to do. But it's the same day as Hailey's birdhouse competition.

In V.O., Hailey says she's secretly relieved: after Sanjay said "I love you" and she said "cool... thanks," (in ep. 210) she's felt a little awkward around him. Now Hailey's not sure what this means for her feelings toward Sanjay. She's not even sure she ever liked him as much as she liked Scott...

As Hailey continues to stare into space, lost in her thoughts, Scott seizes the opportunity to make it up to Sanjay: he can go trapeze-ing with him! Sanjay takes him up on it and the two make plans with some awkward new friend energy.

EXT. BOARDWALK - BIRDHOUSE COMPETITION - DAY

Hailey feels confident as she, Beta, Frank and Petey scope out the competition (kids, hobbyists, etc.). But a loud engine revs and MIDGE DICKCISSEL rolls up on her electric mobility scooter. Hailey's face drops. She explains to Beta that Midge is one tough cookie, having won Home Tweet Home 10 years in a row. She was supposed to have just retired! But Midge announces she's back;

turns out everyone in retirement just builds birdhouses anyway, so why skip out on the fame and glory? She blows her signature Dickcissel whistle and a flock of finches flutter down around her. The crowd goes wild as Hailey nervously wrings her hands. This competition is gonna be tougher than she thought.

EXT. PIER - TRAPEZE RIG - DAY

Mid-trapeze lesson, Scott and Sanjay swing, leap, and catch one another with incredible chemistry as their instructor, DUKE (old weathered surf dude), coaches them through complex moves. Duke is impressed and says there's nothing more he can teach them...because he's got a 5-year-old's bday party coming in. But Scott and Sanjay are still riding that sweet trapeze high! They see online that people do "pick up 'peze" down in South Oceanside, so the two enthusiastically decide to go get some more swings in together!

EXT. BOARDWALK - BIRDHOUSE BUILDING COMPETITION - DAY

Beta doesn't understand how humans can make birdhousing competitive, so Hailey explains the rules: they have the day to build a birdhouse and the one that attracts the most birds when time expires, wins. But competing against a legend like Midge forces Hailey to think bigger. In no time at all, Midge has built a small, luxury birdhouse. She laughs at Hailey gawking, saying that's not even the main event; it's just her pool house (which birds are already in).

Frank and Petey check out the pool house but get stuck and splash water everywhere. Midge shoos them away, saying "this is for birds, not you...beasts!" Hailey comforts Frank and Petey, saying they're just as good as small birds and deserve the finer things in life, too. Wait, why aren't there luxury homes for large birds? This gives Hailey an idea. She needs to think bigger by building bigger! Then she can tap into the underserved big bird community, including Flamingos, Peacocks, Seagulls, Pelicans, etc.

Midge overhears this and scoffs: don't waste your time! "You'll barely fit three of those grotesque birds in your giant birdhouse. And the sanding-time alone will take all day!" But Hailey sees how excited Frank and Petey are and decides to make a birdhouse that's open to everybird. Time to get to work!

EXT. SOUTH OCEANSIDE - TRAPEZE PARK - DAY

At the outdoor park (a la Ocean Park, Santa Monica), myriad folks trapeze on multiple rigs.

Scott and Sanjay are practicing on one when a duo named The South Sider Sibz (BIG AIR and LIL TWISTA) approach, impressed. They challenge them to a friendly 'peze off, which Scott and Sanjay easily win. Lil Twista wants a rematch, saying they should put some "wet bread" on it (a Gravy Cakes gift card). Big Air cautions her, saying Scott and Sanjay are too good, but she insists and they accept. Scott puts up his all-you-can-eat pizza card to U.F.Dough, since they beat them so handily last time. But when the match starts, the South Side Sibz are way better than before and easily trounce Scott and Sanjay. They've been hustled! The Sibz grab the U.F.Dough card and head out to snarf some unlimited 'za!

EXT. BOARDWALK - BIRDHOUSE BUILDING COMPETITION - DAY

Hailey finishes her oversized birdhouse, but Beta points out they still need to attract birds to it. Hailey recalls her mom once told her that her open houses get packed anytime a celebrity stops by. Beta: "Where the heck are we gonna find a bird celebrity." Frank and Petey exchange a look, then squawk excitedly and lead Hailey to the strutting, showy CHARLIE THE PELICAN, who's hanging out nearby, surrounded by birds and tourists taking photos. Of course! Charlie's the most famous bird in Oceanside; if Hailey can get Charlie into her house (tastemaker that he is), other birds will follow. Beta, however, declares that he is out: "That dumb bird has swallowed me too many times before." So Hailey says she'll woo Charlie on her own. She shouts in Charlie's direction about all the amenities of her birdhouse, but Charlie seems tough to convince. Hmm, it's time to get creative...

EXT. BOARDWALK - TRAPEZE LESSON - DAY

As Scott and Sanjay lament to Duke how they got hustled, the Sibz walk by carrying stacks of pizza. A few boxes drop, but they just laugh: "There's more where that came from!" Scott fears they'll put Sunny out of business! Duke says he's seen those jerks hustle green 'pezers before, but what can you do? Scott spots an old photo of a banned move, The Cobra Coil, and asks Duke to teach it to them so they can win the card back. Duke refuses (it's too dangerous), but maybe he can teach them just enough to win. It's time to get creative...

EXT. BOARDWALK/PIER - TRAPEZE TRAINING/LURING OF CHARLIE

BEGIN MONTAGE:

--Scott and Sanjay do mirroring exercises while blind folded. They're bad, bumping into each other. Duke shakes his head.

--Hailey installs a royal-looking bird bath in her house but Charlie is not impressed. The fountain sprays Hailey.

--Scott/Sanjay practice flips and timing on a teeter board. Sanjay loses his balance and sends Scott into the ocean.

--Loud dance music. A sign on Hailey's birdhouse: "Very Exclusive Club." REVEAL: Hailey, Frank, and Petey all desperately dancing to look cool. Charlie's not impressed.

--On a trapeze rig, Scott throws Sanjay a greased pig to practice their catches, but Sanjay's hands slip and he drops the squealing pig into the net below.

--Hailey showcases Frank in a massage chair in the birdhouse. She turns it up too high, shaking feathers off of Frank.

--Blindfolded again, Scott and Sanjay mirror one another in perfect synchronization.

--Charlie double-takes at the silhouette of a VERY attractive pelican behind the window curtain. He's intrigued until the curtain falls to reveal it's Hailey doing shadow puppets.

--Scott/Sanjay do an impressive routine on the teeterboard.

--Hailey makes a trail of beautifully prepared sushi to her house but turns around to see HUNGRY HANK eating them all.

--On a trapeze rig, Scott and Sanjay throw the greased pig back and forth easily. All three smile.

END MONTAGE.

INT. U.F.DOUGH - DAY

A frazzled Sunny serves endless pizza to The Southside Sibz and hangers-on. Scott and Sanjay march up and challenge them to a Double-or-Nothing rematch! Scott even wagers his all-you-can-game arcade card as collateral. Everyone gasps! The Sibz accept the challenge and they all head out!

EXT. SOUTH OCEANSIDE - TRAPEZE PARK - DAY

As the Sibz impressively warm up, Scott and Sanjay realize there's only one move that'll ever beat them... The Cobra Coil. Scott and Sanjay agree to go for it and confidently start their 'peze. They do an incredible job and in a grand finale, slow-mo moment, pull off The Cobra Coil! The crowd erupts. Even the Sibz are impressed. But that arcade card is still as good as theirs, because they're gonna do...the DOUBLE Cobra Coil! Scott and Sanjay's mouths drop.

EXT. BOARDWALK - BIRDHOUSE BUILDING COMPETITION - DAY

Disheartened, Hailey watches the last minute of the competition clock start to tick away; guess it's not her year after all. But Beta returns and says he won't allow that: she's worked her butt off! Plus, they're a team...and he's ready to take one for the team. Beta goes into the birdhouse and dances so Charlie can see him, knowing full well he'll probably get swallowed. Beta: "This may take a while so--" Nope. An immediate GULP. As Beta yells from his gullet, Charlie happily uses the birdhouse's amenities. Other birds, big and small alike, notice and fly over to Hailey's house just as time expires. Hailey wins! Midge says she respects Hailey's spunk and pops a wheelie as she leaves, but her scooter backfires loudly! It spooks all the birds at the competition, who fly off en masse...

EXT. SOUTH OCEANSIDE - TRAPEZE PARK

The Sibz are performing better than ever and Scott and Sanjay watch, concerned. The Sibz go up into a big twist to start the Double Coil when... a massive flock of birds (from the previous scene) streak through! The Sibz are pelted by the birds, repeatedly smacking them up into the air to endure more comical abuse, before finally falling into the net, defeated. Scott and Sanjay win!

EXT. BOARDWALK - BIRDHOUSE BUILDING COMPETITION - DAY

Hailey finishes leaving a voicemail: "...and then I won! Thanks for giving me the time I needed today. Wish you could have been here! Anyway, see you later, Scott." She hangs up and Beta points out that Hailey's first call after her birdhouse victory was to Scott, not her boyfriend. Hailey contemplates this and starts to wonder -- maybe she isn't as in to Sanjay as she thought, and could use some time apart...

REVEAL: Sanjay and Scott are right next to her. Hailey: "Oh, Sanjay! Uh, you didn't hear that, did you? Nevermind..." Fortunately, Sanjay seems oblivious and Scott is just excited about what an epic day they had! Scott and Sanjay really bonded; they're bros for life now! Scott: "I'm so pumped. Sanjay's gonna hang out with us ALL THE TIME NOW!"

Off Hailey's worried expression, we...

FADE OUT.